

**RUSK COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** October 11, 2022

**ROLL CALL:** T. DUSELL, M. QUADE, R. STOUT, J. MEYER

**OTHERS PRESENT:** N. STADNYK, R. HANSEN

**Open Session:** Meeting called to order @ 8:00 am

**Public Comment:** None.

**Minutes:** DuSell/ Meyer motion to approve minutes from September 13<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

**Payment Approval Report:** Meyer/ DuSell motion to approve payment approval report. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 @ 8:00 am

**Wildlife Damage Claim Program:** Stadnyk reported on behalf of Zesiger. Bear trapping has mostly wound down with a handful of bears moving weekly. The office is currently working on crop damage assessments.

**NRCS Report:** No report.

**FSA Report:** Quade provided updates on several program deadlines. October 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for both the Organic and Transitional Education Program and the Organic Certification Cost Share Program. November 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for acreage reporting and November 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the noninsured crop disaster program. In late October the new hire will be starting work for Rusk/Sawyer Counties. Quade noted DMC sign up begins October 17<sup>th</sup> and ARCPLC sign up starts this fall.

**Land Conservation & Development Department:** Stadnyk stated sanitary permits were below average at 97 for the year and land use permits are way above average at 343.

The Land Information Department is working on a grant submittal to get funding for GIS data in 2023. Improvements are being made to the Next Generation 9-1-1 system to better assist emergency services. Grants are available to fix errors in the program and improve important data for the county.

Stadnyk reported reservations for apple trees have been made for next year. Updates were given on the Purple Loosestrife control along Hwy 27. Stadnyk will be working with Chippewa County to plan biological control for the invasive species. A plan to assist with wetland management (along Townline Road West of Ladysmith) has been started to help maintain the roadway.

**Land Conservation Report**

**Animal Waste Storage Applications:** None.

**Out of County Travel:** None.

**Shoreline Protection Program:** Stadnyk mentioned it is too late in the year to start projects and will work with the Finance Department to carry over funding. At this time, contracts are being signed by landowners for future projects.

**Reallocation of SWRM Funds:** Stadnyk stated excess SWRM funds are available from Trempealeau County. DuSell/Meyer motion to approve transfer of SWRM funds from Trempealeau County. Motion carried.

**Continuation of AIS Grant Agreement:** Stadnyk requested approval to continue AIS agreement for the Beaver Creek Reserve. Meyer/Stout motion to approve Beaver Creek Reserve contract. Motion carried.

**Conservation Poster & Speaking Contest:** Stadnyk noted the annual poster and speaking contests are open. Entries are due January 6<sup>th</sup> and judging will be January 11<sup>th</sup>. The State Contest will be held in March. Committee members mentioned giving winners monetary prizes to increase involvement. Stadnyk agreed with members and suggest awarding first through third place winners. DuSell/Meyer motion to award both competition winners monetary prizes.

**Adjourn:** Meyer/DuSell motion to adjourn at 8:33 am. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Rachel Hansen.